

## **STATEMENT BY THE EUROPEAN UNION AT THE 993rd MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

Vienna, 3 April 2014

### **Regarding the “5+2” talks**

The European Union calls on all the participants in the next “5+2” format meeting, which is scheduled to be held in Vienna on 10 and 11 April 2014, to engage in an active dialogue, in a spirit of co-operation, in order to bring about tangible progress on the key substantive issues for the resolution of the conflict in the Republic of Moldova, with respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of that country. The discussions should address all the issues relating to the settlement of the conflict, including those in the third basket. They should not include any questions that are unconnected with the settlement. The “5+2” format, which is the only means for ensuring the transparency and legitimacy necessary for a lasting solution, must be supported by all the participants, who should undertake to reduce tension throughout the region.

Similarly, the activities of the OSCE Mission to Moldova should continue unhindered and benefit from complete access to the entire territory of the Republic of Moldova, including the Transdnestrian region, and to the Russian arms depot at Colbasna.

The candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia<sup>1</sup>, Montenegro<sup>1</sup>, Iceland<sup>2</sup> and Serbia<sup>1</sup>, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina, the members of the European Free Trade Association Liechtenstein and Norway, as well as Georgia, Ukraine, Monaco and San Marino, align themselves with this statement.

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1 The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

2 Iceland continues to be a member of the European Free Trade Association.